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DMBC-0003  
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09/768,710  
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In the claims:

✓  
Please cancel claims 2-5 and 9-10.

Please amend the claims as follows:

Sub  
C1  
B1  
~~1. (Twice amended) A friction resistant blade comprising a blade shaped substrate base with an edge and a protective layer applied to all areas of the blade shaped substrate wherein the substrate base is comprised of carbon strip steel and coiled and further wherein said protective layer is electroless nickel.~~

Sub  
C1  
B2  
~~8. (Amended) A method of producing a friction resistant blade comprising applying a protective layer to a blade-shaped substrate base, said layer being applied to all areas of the blade-shaped substrate wherein said protective layer is electroless nickel, and wherein said blade-shaped substrate base is carbon strip steel.~~

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-10 are pending in the instant application. Claims 1-10 have been rejected. Claims 2-5 and 9-10 have been canceled. Claims 1 and 8 have been amended. Reconsideration is